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In re Application of:

Serial No.: <u>09/755,717</u>

Confirmation No.: 5164

Filed:

January 5, 2001

For:

TANTALUM REMOVAL

DURING CHEMICAL

MECHANICAL POLISHING

Mail Stop Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Examiner:

Lan Vinh

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

37 CFR 1.8

hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Signature ()

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED APRIL 1, 2003

In response to the Office Action dated April 1, 2003 having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on July 1, 2003. Please enter this response and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below. Although Applicants believe that no fee is due in connection with this response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 20-0782/AMAT/5538/EJS, for any fees, including extension of time fees or excess claim fees, required to make this response timely and acceptable to the Office.

IN THE CLAIMS:

27. A method for selective removal of a tantalum-comprising layer from a substrate in chemical mechanical polishing, comprising: